vertisements through DAVP during the last three years was as under:—

	Amounts. Rs. P.
1986-87	2,66,62,787.63
1987-88	3,50,84,962.00
1988-89 (Till February, '89).	5,62,11,572.95

(c) Efforts are made to make optimum use of small and medium newspapers.

Decrease in Foodgrains Allocation for Distribution through Public Distribution System

506. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA:
SHRI SUNIL BASU RAY:

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been decrease in foodgrains allocation, for distribution through Public Distribution System despite the bumper crops;

(tr) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take to restore the original supplies?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRi D. L. BATTHA): (a) to (c) The allocation of foodgrains to -various States/UTs under PDS wag reviewed in February, 1989 keeping in view the overall availability of stocks in the Central Pool relative needs of various States, improved market aivailability on arrival of new rice and kharif coarse-grain crop and the fact that the' supply to Public Distribution System is only supplemental in nature. As a result of the review the rice quota of most of the States wag reduced uniformly by 20 per cent and that of wheat increased by 5 per cent in view of its lean season. The increase in wheat allocations have been withdrawn in April, 1989 m view of improved market availability with the arrival of fresh wheat crop.

The allocation of wheat and rice from the Central Pool under PDS are only supplemental to the open market availability and are made on a month to month basis, taking into account the overall availability of stocks in the Central Pool, relative needs of the various States, market availa. bility and other related factors.

Offices of Publication Division in the Slates and their Sales Turnover

507. SHRI MOHD. HASHIM /KIDWAI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased *to* state:

(a) the number of branches of the Publications Division of the Ministry state-wise as on date;

(b) The corresponding number of these branches during the last three years; and

(c) the total sale of publications of the Ministry at these branches during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARy AFFATRS AND THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROAD. CASTING (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT):
(a) Details are given in the Statement. *{See* below)

(b) There has been no change in the number of branches of the Division except the unit publishing "Indian & Foreign Review" which has been transferred to Ministry of External Affairs w.e.f 1.7.88.

(o) The total sale of publications of the Ministry through its sales emporia, etc., during he last three years stood as under:

1986-87 - - Rs. 215.44 Lakhs
1987-88 ■ Rs. 216.55 Lakhs
1988-89 - - Rs. 261.18 Lakhs